Happy birthday apple-Baby! Make tasty tarts with your plum-honey Echo during your elopement celebration!
-Nakama

Nakama
A Circle of Friends
Since 2003
http://nakama.gr.jp/
#Nakama7MreX.com

N.A.K.A.M.A. PROJECT
HTTP://NAKAMA.CJB.NET
#N.A.K.A.M.A@IRC.MIRCX.COM

SCANNED BY: VALERIA
TRANSLATED BY: CIRRUS
EDITED BY: KALIA
QC BY: ECHOECHO

HEY, RIKU! WANNA STOP BY THE ARCADE ON THE WAY HOME?
DASH
SORRY! I'LL HAVE TO PASS FOR TODAY!
OH, MAN! AND TODAY I WAS TOTALLY GOING TO BEAT YOU!
I HAVE TO PICK UP A FEW GROCERIES FIRST!
MEET AMANO RIKU AGE 17
ASIDE FROM HELPING HIS MOTHER RUN THEIR SMALL FAMILY RESTAURANT HE ATTENDS THE LOCAL HIGH SCHOOL
Hell... ...ornoon!
Oh! Riku-chan!
STEP
STEP
USUALLY HE'S AN UPSTANDING AND POLITE YOUNG BOY, BUT

KICK
THUD
!?
What did I trip on?
OW!..
W-W-W-W-WOAH!?
EEP!

W-W-WHAT'S WITH HIM?
HEY! ARE YOU OKAY!? HANG IN THERE!
WOAH!
DID I... DID I KILL YOU!?
shake
shake
EXCUSE ME, HE'S BEEN SLEEPING THERE FOR A WHILE NOW
What!?
FOR A WHILE!? YOU MEAN, I DIDN'T DO THIS!?
neighbor hood guide-attacker
gasp
A... A MURDER CASE!?
What do I do!?
stick
pant pant

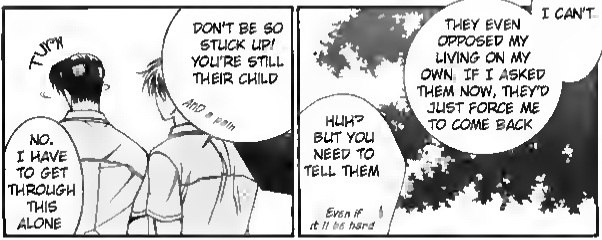
THEN THAT MEANS... I'M THE DEAD BODY'S FIRST WITNESS!!
SQUEEZE
1st GRADE SCHOOLERS HUGE THE FIRST WITNESS
H-HEY! YOU'RE STILL ALIVE!?
CLUNG
HE JUST MOVED! HE IS ALIVE!!
DID YOU SEE!? DID YOU SEE!?
I SAW
AN ANGEL?
I'VE FINALLY DIED AND GONE TO HEAVEN

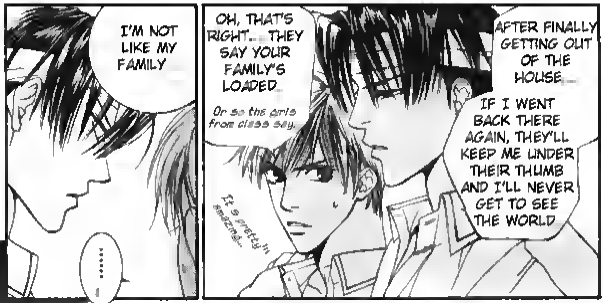
EXCUSE ME?
IT'S HUNGER.
THEN HE WAS HIT WITH SUDDEN DISASTER.
WEEEEEE
WEEEEE
DUE TO EXTREME HUNGER, HE COLLAPSED AND RECEIVED A SLIGHT CUT TO THE HEAD.
IT'S NOT SERIOUS, SO HE'S FREE TO RETURN HOME
HIM.
NO, NOT ME
UH . . DOCTOR. . YOU'RE HUNGRY?
CLACK

THIS IS NO TIME TO EAT!!
shake
BAM
I'M NOT THE ONE WITH THE PROBLEM! YOU COLLAPSED OUT OF HUNGER, RIGHT!?
WHAT TIME PERIOD ARE YOU FROM!?
You don't faint like that in this day and age!
WHAT'S YOUR PROBLEM?
WHAT DID YOU JUST CALL ME!?
GRR—R
I SEE— HE'S THE NOISY GUY FROM MY NEXT DOOR CLASS.
Don't come in here yelling all of a sudden
YOU COULD AT LEAST GIVE ME A "THANK YOU VERY MUCH"!
Hmph!
EXCUSE ME. MISAKI-SAN. THIS IS AMANO-SAN, THE ONE WHO CALLED FOR YOUR AMBULANCE.

I WAS IN TOO MUCH OF A PANIC TO REALIZE UNTIL NOW BUT...
IF I HADN'T STUMBLED UPON YOU TODAY YOU PROBABLY WOULD HAVE BEEN BURNT TO A CRISP BY THE SUN!
THAT'S RIGHT! HE'S...
!!
HE'S THE STUDENT, MASAKI, FROM THE CLASS NEXT DOOR
Sensei knows the students names!?
EVEN MY BELOVED SATOU-SAN
THE GIRLS IN MY CLASS JUST WON'T SHUT UP ABOUT HIM!
I ONLY KNOW HIS FACE AND NAME; BUT HE'S ALL THE GIRLS TALK ABOUT
He's unique, isn't he? ♥
GRAB
I CAN'T STAND HIM ALREADY...
Geez! This sour face stuff
A-ANYWAY.. I'M GLAD NOTHING BAD HAPPENED TO YOU
I'LL BE LEAVING NOW...
YOU BROUGHT ME HERE, SO YOU SHOULD WALK ME BACK HOME, TOO
HUH!?
WOAH!
what is it?

SNIP
W-WE'RE NOT FRIENDS!
TUG
DAMMIT! HE WON'T LET ME GO!
U-UH WE DON'T HAVE ANY MORE ROOM TODAY, SO...
WE'RE VERY SORRY, BUT THE DOCTOR'S BILL MUST BE PAID AND... YOU'RE FRIENDS, SO...
I'M LIVING BY MYSELF
AND I LOST MY WALLET THAT HAD MY LIFE'S SAVINGS IN IT.
I DON'T HAVE A PENNY TO MY NAME
JEEZ! THIS ISN'T FUNNY!
HOW THE HELL COULD YOU GET HUNGRY ENOUGH TO FAINT!?
Where are your parents?
.....
SILENCE
I EVEN RAN OUT OF RICE
I got a small allowance from my grandma
WOW, THAT'S PRETTY HARSH...
How can't LOOK that sad about it
I DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE SO BROKE. WHY DON'T YOU GET MORE MONEY FROM YOUR PARENTS?


TUT'K
DON'T BE SO STUCK UP! YOU'RE STILL THEIR CHILD
AND a pain
NO. I HAVE TO GET THROUGH THIS ALONE
I CAN'T
THEY EVEN OPPOSED MY LIVING ON MY OWN. IF I ASKED THEM NOW, THEY'D JUST FORCE ME TO COME BACK
HUH? BUT YOU NEED TO TELL THEM
Even if it'll be hard


I'M NOT LIKE MY FAMILY
.....
OH, THAT'S RIGHT... THEY SAY YOUR FAMILY'S LOADED
Or so the girls from class say.
It's pretty obscene.
AFTER FINALLY GETTING OUT OF THE HOUSE...
IF I WENT BACK THERE AGAIN, THEY'LL KEEP ME UNDER THEIR THUMB AND I'LL NEVER GET TO SEE THE WORLD

I'LL CALL SOMEONE REAL QUICK COME ON!
?
I'm not being melo-dramatic
JUST START EARNING YOUR OWN INCOME
I'M SURE YOU'LL MAKE ENDS MEET
GRIP
QUIT GETTING ALL MELO-DRAMATIC LIKE THAT.

WHY, OF COURSE I DON'T MIND!
FRIENDS OF RIKU ARE ALWAYS WELCOME HERE! I WAS HOPING FOR ANOTHER HELPING HAND AROUND THE SHOP
THANKS, MOM!
I'M MASAKI YOU. PLEASED TO MEET YOU
BUT, NOT BAD, HUH? YOU'LL BE PAID A DAILY ALLOWANCE, SO YOU WON'T HAVE TO GO HUNGRY AGAIN!
smile
You heard what she said!
YOU SURE THIS IS OKAY?
H-HA HA... WELL, WE'VE BEEN SPREAD PRETTY THIN HERE AT THE SHOP...
AND THAT'S HOW MISAKI CAME TO WORK AT RIKU'S MOTHER'S STORE
ha ha ha ha
GET TO WORK!! OR ELSE YOU'LL MISS THE NEXT MEAL!

THUS BEGAN THE RATHER PECULIAR TEAM OF THE EXPRESSION-LESS MISAKI AND THE EVER CHEEFUL RIKU
FRIENDS WOULD TURN THEIR HEADS AS THEIR BIPOLAR HARMONY BEGAN TO UNFOLD

CHATTER
CHATTER
AMANO-KUN FROM CLASS 2? YEAH, HE'S EVERYONE'S FRIEND.
HE HAS AN AURA AROUND HIM THAT REACHES THE SUN.
EVERYTIME I SEE HIM, HE'S ALWAYS HAVING FUN WITH FRIENDS.
WITH THAT BIG SMILE, LIKE HE DOESN'T HAVE A CARE IN THE WORLD.
I'M PROBABLY JUST ANOTHER FACE IN THE CROWD TO HIM.
TO HIM, I'M..

YO.
OH
STILL ZONING OUT AS USUAL, HUH?
WHAT DO YOU WANT?
BONK
!?
WHO KNOWS? GUESS SHE FOUND YOUR STORY TO BE WORTH HER PITY
HEE HEE!
SHE'S USUALLY TOO BUSY TO MAKE MY LUNCHES, THOUGH.
CHATTER
CHATTER
HUH? WHY FOR ME?
HERE'S YOUR LUNCH MY MOM MADE ONE FOR YOU, TOO
BUT SHE'S CERTAINLY GOT THE SKILL FOR COOKING, YA' KNOW?
smile
EAT UP, SO YOU HAVE ENERGY TO WORK TODAY.
OH

HUH?
What the ?
RIGHT.. SORRY
YO, RIKU!! TIME FOR CLASS!
OH! RIGHT!
Maybe he cut his hair shorter than I thought?
D-DID HE JUST.. SMILE!? WHAT'S GOING ON??
before he looked so pissed off..
IF I CAN STAY WITH HIM LIKE THIS
MAYBE I SHOULD LOSE MY WALLET NEXT MONTH, TOO...
Hm?
LATER, MISAKI!
DASH
SEE YA' AT THE SHOP!

YES, SIR?
I'm in the middle of class.
Whispering
Let's do it!
AMANO
CAN I SPEAK WITH YOU FOR A MINUTE?
CHATTER
CHATTER
I JUST GOT A CALL FROM THE HOSPITAL
IT APPEARS YOUR MOTHER FAINTED AND WAS BROUGHT THERE
THUD THUD THUD THUD
.....?
THUD THUD THUD THUD...

OH MY. YOU-CHAN, YOU CAME, TOO?
!
BANG
MS AMANO!
PUBLIC HOSPITAL
I... UH
I'M SO VERY SORRY I MUST'VE GIVEN YOU BOTH QUITE A SCARE.
HER BLOOD PRESSURE SUDDENLY WENT THROUGH THE ROOF.
IT'S STABLE NOW, SO SHE'LL BE ALRIGHT
THE DOCTOR SAYS SHE'LL NEED TO STAY IN THE HOSPITAL FOR AT LEAST A WEEK
OH... I SEE.
OKAY, MOM. I'M GOING HOME TO GET YOU A CHANGE OF CLOTHES.
THANK YOU
I'LL COME, TOO.
I'LL BE FINE! AND WHY DO YOU STINK OF SWEAT!? Did you run here?

HEY...
WHAT DO I DO?...
IF ANYTHING WERE TO HAPPEN TO HER... I...
I'D...
RIKU...
WHAT DO I DO...
RI...
WHY DIDN'T YOU COME EARLIER?

SO IF SOMETHING WERE TO HAPPEN TO HER, I...!
AND I -sniff- DON'T HAVE A DAD...
SQUEEZE
hug
THUMP
I'M SORRY... I DIDN'T KNOW...
I COULDN'T TAKE IT!
I COULD-N'T!
THUMP
SHH, CALM DOWN THE DOCTOR SAID IT WASN'T SERIOUS.
PLEASE -sniff- DON'T LEAVE ME ALONE...
THUMP
I'D NEVER LEAVE YOU ALONE...
THIS ISN'T GOOD... HE LOOKS SO CONFUSED...
hold

MMPH!
NN!
HAA ..
MI
MISAKI

MISAKI...
ARE YOU FEELING BETTER?
YOU KISSED ME...
.....
YEAH
I'M... I'M JUST ACTING LIKE A BABY IN FRONT OF YOU.
YOU MUST THINK I'M AN IDIOT...
BUT.
THUMP
BUT I THINK I WANT YOU DO THAT TO ME MORE...
THERE MUST BE SOMETHING WRONG WITH ME.

RIKU!..
UN!
AHA
THUMP
TWITCH
lick
AH!
HAA!
NO..!
MI..
MISA..KI..!

AH!
DOES IT...
haa
PUSH
AAH!
SIP
HURT TOO MUCH HERE?
haa
haa
AH!
I... I'M ALRIGHT
GRAB
PLEASE PUT IT IN...
NO!
I WANT THIS SO BADLY, BUT..
YOU'RE GOING TO RIP ME APART!
AAH!
...

AH!!
MISAKI, AFTER MAKING LOVE THEN REALIZED THIS WAS A MAN HE TRULY WANTED TO STAY BESIDE, AND BECAME LOYAL TO HIM.
LIKEWISE, THE SOMEWHAT DEVILISH BY NATURE RIKU UNCONSCIOUSLY FED INTO THIS
FEEL FREE TO CRY ON YOU-CHAN'S SHOULDERS WHENEVER YOU NEED TO
uh, no, that's okay.
I'M SO GLAD WE HAVE YOU-CHAN HERE WITH US.
RIKU MAY NOT SHOW IT, BUT HE'S REALLY A VERY LONELY BOY.
CUZ YOU ALREADY DID THAT. HAHAHA--
uph, N...o FIST
He
!?
END